



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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PAINTSVILLE BUSINESSMAN SELECTED FOR JOSEPH W. KELLY AWARD

(Frankfort, KY) – At its meeting today, the Kentucky Board of Education presented the 15th annual Joseph W. Kelly Award to Paintsville businessman Bob Hutchison. The award is presented annually to a business leader who is actively engaged in making a difference in the local schools. Hutchison owns McDonald's of Eastern Kentucky – a total of 14 restaurants.

"Kentucky is fortunate to have the involvement of the business community in P-12 public education," Kentucky Board of Education Chair Roger Marcum said. "The support provided, as evidenced by this individual, is invaluable in helping Kentucky reach its educational goals."

The Kelly award is given to businesspeople who offer outstanding leadership and service toward promoting school improvement and equitable educational opportunities for all Kentucky children.

In a letter nominating Hutchison, Johnson Co. Schools Innovation Coordinator Noel Crum wrote, "There are some people who reach out to further education in their schools and community, but I have never met anyone like Mr. Hutchison, who embraces the task of helping all children achieve at high levels."

Over the years, Hutchison has contributed to public education in a number of ways. He has

- served on the Johnson Co. Board of Education since 1994 and currently serves as its chair
- donated more than \$1 million to area schools
- helped students develop leadership skills
- connected schools and communities
- served as chair of the Lonesome Pine District Boy Scouts
- served on the Johnson Co. Career and Technical Education Steering Committee where he has helped shape career pathways that offer multiple opportunities for student success

Crum says of Bob Hutchison, "He recognized the inequities in educational opportunities for young people in our region, and he has devoted nearly four decades of service working to break barriers and provide resources and guidance for all students."

(more)

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The Kelly Award was created in honor of Joseph W. Kelly, a respected businessman and chair of the Kentucky Board of Education from 1991 to 1998. Kelly's efforts and expertise were crucial to the implementation and nurturing of Kentucky's school improvement efforts.

Board members Nawanna Privett, Debbie Cook and Bill Twyman served as the selection committee for the award this year.

Previous Winners of the Joseph W. Kelly Award

- 2014** Darrell Higginbotham, president of Independence Bank in Owensboro
Mark Shirkness, the general manager of General Electric (GE) Appliances Distribution Services, Louisville
- 2013** Jim Allen, chairman and CEO of Hilliard Lyons
- 2011** Henry Hunt, chief operating officer for DataSeam
- 2010** Helen M. Carroll, manager of Community Relations for Toyota Motor Engineering and Manufacturing, North America, Inc.
- 2009** Bud Hudson, CEO of the Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center in Richmond
- 2008** Al Rider, president and CEO of the North Central Education Foundation in Elizabethtown
- 2007** Ben Cundiff, owner/operator of Cundiff Farms in Cadiz
- 2006** Henry Vogt Heuser, Jr., CEO and president of Unistar/Vogt in Louisville
- 2005** Wynn Long Radford III, president and co-owner of Higgins Insurance Agency in Hopkinsville
- 2004** Ann Yager Hamlin, director of Stith Funeral Home in Danville
- 2003** State Senator Jimmy Higdon, owner of Higdon's Foodtown in Lebanon
- 2002** Frank and Mattie Justice, founders of the Frank and Mattie Justice Charitable Foundation in Pikeville
- 2001** Billy Harper, president of Harper Industries, Inc., in Paducah
- 2000** Vince and Valorie Tanner, owners of the Beaver Dam McDonald's restaurant

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